

Vol. 14 No. 1 Fall 1999

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Building on New Growth

Program survey results

New corporate logo

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REDEEMER
A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

A new phase of growth and development



Dr. Justin Cooper
President

How amazing that we have grown by more than 100 students this fall! We have a total of 605 full- and part-time students, which is a full-time equivalent enrolment of 576 students compared to 468 just a year ago!

The new semester arrived with excitement as faculty and staff were absorbed with preparations for larger numbers of students. This record enrolment has made our classrooms and hallways noticeably fuller, and our residences are full to overflowing, making it necessary for some returning students to seek accommodation off-campus.

This growth is a wonderful answer to prayer. We knew that our recognition as an undergraduate university would make a difference in our enrolment, and we had also committed additional resources to our promotion and recruitment efforts. But clearly the Lord has blessed us beyond what we could ask or imagine!

And this is only the beginning. There is a growing number of students who wish to develop their gifts in the context of a Christian university education. In this context, our charter amendment is opening the door to a new phase of growth and development for Redeemer College which has the potential to see it become an institution of 1,000 students over the next five or six years.

Such growth is not simply an end in itself. First of all, it will enable us to prepare more students for lives of leadership and service under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, which is our principal focus. Growth in enrolment will also make possible further development of the college's ability to carry out its mission more effectively. As academic programs are rounded out and new ones developed, as new faculty and staff are added and as new facilities are built, Redeemer

College will become even better equipped to offer a Christ-centred university education and to promote Christian scholarship, enhancing the excellent reputation we have already established.

At the same time, this kind of development also brings with it a number of challenges, including those related to institutional identity, a sense of community and the cost of expansion. As the college grows, it has the opportunity to serve an increasingly diverse student body. This year we have students on campus from 33 denominational backgrounds, about two-thirds of whom come from a Reformed background and the other third from the broader Christian (evangelical) community. Such diversity requires us to find ways to communicate the vision of Christ's Lordship over all of life and creation (a Reformed Christian perspective) in ways that are accessible to a more diverse audience. We need to be an inclusive Reformed Christian institution, building on our Reformed Christian basis, while responding to the challenge we have as the only undergraduate university serving the Christian community in Ontario.

As we grow larger, we also have to work at maintaining the close sense of campus community which has become a hallmark of the college. We are a caring community with an ethos of love and compassion for students, staff and faculty. Adding more people will make this harder in some respects; it will hardly be possible to know everyone's name. However, we believe that we can continue to be a caring academic community as expressed in the attitudes of our faculty and staff and through a relatively low student/faculty ratio which will still permit the development of mentoring relationships with professors. We are also counting on our

unique residence/apartment style living arrangements to maintain a close sense of community as students continue to live together in small family-like units.

Finally, growth will also mean the expansion of our facilities, as we begin to fill out the beautiful 78-acre campus we have. We are currently working on a new campus master plan which will envision what an institution of over 1,000 students could look like. In addition, it is also becoming clear that the college will need to construct new residence facilities as early as next spring in order to accommodate the anticipated growth in enrolment for 2000-01, and to build additional residence space in the following year.

The academic building may be able to serve as many as 800 students, perhaps with the addition of some temporary classrooms. But at that point we will need to expand these facilities as well in order to provide a quality Christian university education to larger numbers of students. This in turn will require additional resources to finance these capital projects, a challenge which we know can be fulfilled by people of faith and vision who recognize the importance of a Christian centre of learning like Redeemer College. Our *Building on the Promise* campaign will be the vehicle to give expression to this commitment.

Please join us in praying that, as we grow, the Lord will help us to meet these challenges: to be faithful to our mission to provide a scripturally-directed and Christ-centred education for students; to maintain a caring community on this campus; and to find the resources needed to expand our facilities. The Lord has given us a great treasure in this institution. Let us continue to develop it in a way which will witness to his power and glory "like a city set on a hill, whose light cannot be hid."

i Fall 1999
Vol. 14
No. 1

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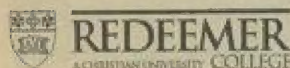
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images is published three times per year by the Communications & Media Relations Department of Redeemer College in conjunction with the Alumni Association.

Ideas and opinions expressed in *Images* may not necessarily reflect those of the editors, the Alumni Association or the college. Letters and editorial comments are welcomed. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content or brevity.

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COVER:

Artistic rendering of Redeemer's new three-storey residence hall which is planned for completion before September 2000.

Drawing provided by Reinders Consultants.



REDEEMER Images



Unprecedented growth hits the campus

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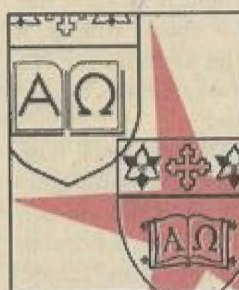
Redeemer College is experiencing a record year in terms of increased enrolment and students in residence. This growth trend is expected to continue into the next decade.

--By Clarence Keesman '98

Change in corporate logo

5

With the charter amendment and the dawn of a new millennium, Redeemer College unveils its new corporate image.



DEPARTMENTS:

President's Message	2
Upcoming Events	4
College News	5
Student Profile	8
Cover Story	9
Alumni Profile	13
Alumni News	14
Faculty Update	16
Personal Touch	18
Looking Back	19

Science professors speak

16

Dr. Gary Chiang and Dr. Henry Brouwer will deliver their inaugural speeches as full professors. Read about how they're handling the increased enrolment in the sciences at Redeemer.

Making plans for the future



Tim Wolfert '87
Editor

"...Without a vision, we perish..."
 "...Fail to plan and you will plan to fail..."
 "...Reach for the stars..."
 "...Dream big..."

There are many admonitions and warnings to prepare for the future. Both individuals and institutions are encouraged to look beyond the immediate. There are plenty of Biblical models for planning as well. When warned of an impending famine, Joseph helped Egypt prepare by building storehouses for future use. And the wisdom of Proverbs also advises us not to forget about tomorrow.

Redeemer College is dreaming big. Plans are being put into place for a campus that could hold up to 1,200 students. New residences, more academic programs, academic building expansion, and other new facilities are actively being discussed. And these are not "pie in the sky" musings, either. There is considerable evidence to suggest that over the next number

of years, many more students will pursue the quality, Christian higher education that is offered at Redeemer.

Growth is exciting. Looking at the future and seeing rosy predictions of increased enrolment and expanded opportunities to serve students is inspiring. And though we know that God is always with us, it is a lot easier to see His hand when things are going well.

After the initial flush of excitement passes, however, there is still so much to do. Like the servants in the parable of the talents, Redeemer College has been given much, and the responsibility now is to manage those blessings effectively. The college has been working diligently on plans for growth for some time now, through the Strategic Plan initiative, campus planning meetings,

and academic goal-setting. Through those activities, the college has been aided greatly by many members of its support community. As a membership-based society, Redeemer relies on the support and advice of many committed supporters who share the vision of Christian higher education.

How "big" will Redeemer get? Only God knows. But in thinking about the future, it is good to see where Redeemer has come from. Who could have guessed 17 years ago that Redeemer would be offering BA and B.Sc. degrees, have its own beautiful campus, attract students from all over the world, and have graduated more than 900 talented Christian leaders to serve God in so many different communities? As we contemplate where we are going, let's not underestimate where He can take us.

COMING Redeemer EVENTS

Art Exhibition

The Redeemer College Art Department presents "His Healing," a retrospective art exhibition by guest artist Linda Schenk-Wiesner. Oct. 21 - 8 p.m. opening. Continues to Nov. 6. Redeemer College Art Gallery

Faculty Inaugural

Dr. Henry Brouwer and Dr. Gary Chiang will both give their inaugural addresses after their promotion to full professor. Join the Redeemer community for this festive occasion. Nov. 12 - 8 p.m. Redeemer College Auditorium

Main Stage Theatre

Prof. Raymond Louter directs this semester's main stage theatre performance of "Caucasian Chalk Circle."

Nov. 23 - 8 p.m. preview
 Nov. 24 - 12 noon matinee
 Nov. 25-27 - 8 p.m. shows
 Redeemer College Auditorium
 \$12 (\$10 sr./st.) tax included

Christmas Choral Concert

The Redeemer College Music Department presents "A Christmas Morning Celebration" with the Concert Choir, quartets, duets and more. Dec. 10 - 8 p.m.

Redeemer College Auditorium
 \$14 (\$12 sr./st.) tax included

Alumni Art Exhibition

Opens Thurs. Jan. 20 and runs to Feb. 5.

Redeemer College Art Gallery

Winter Term Cultural Events

The winter semester will again include an art exhibition, main stage theatre production and choral concert. Tickets for the theatre and music performances will go on sale Feb. 1. The art exhibition is free of charge.

Board Meetings

Board of Governors meets:

Nov. 26, 27

Redeemer College Senate meets:

Nov. 11

Jan. 13

Tickets are now on sale for this semester's cultural events: Please call (905) 648-2139 x4211 for more information or to reserve seats.

College unveils new graphic identifier

By David Raakman

In September, Redeemer College unveiled its new corporate logo, marking a new phase in the development of the institution.

After 17 years with the original logo and in the light of the university accreditation received last summer, college administrators opted to update Redeemer's visual identity with a new graphic look.

The new logo emphasizes the name Redeemer with all capital letters in a font which accents the prestige of a university education. The slogan "A Christian University College" now becomes a standard part of the image with the word "Col-

lege" slightly larger to underscore the name of the institution: Redeemer College.

The official colours have changed slightly using a deeper red, reflecting the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and a more golden yellow to highlight

Christ's kingship. The logo also incorporates the shield portion of the original coat of arms.

The process of developing this new look began in the fall of 1998 and, after many presentations to various focus groups, concluded this past summer. The

new logo is being phased in gradually as existing stock bearing the old logo is used up. A colour version of the logo can be seen on the cover of this issue of *Images* as well as on the Redeemer College website: www.redeemer.on.ca.



REDEEMER
A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Large ballot for first-year senator election

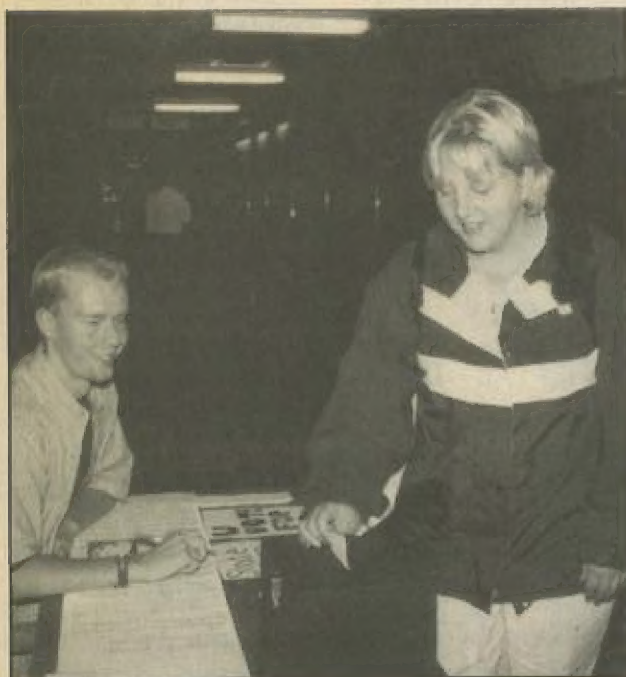


PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

EVERY VOTE COUNTS: Candidate Shauna Fitch casts her ballot during the election for first-year senator on Student Senate. Out of the record-high 13 candidates, the three available seats were won by Emily Houweling, Cameron Stretch and Brandon Steinly.

The long list of names on the first-year senator election ballot for Student Senate is evidence of the overall excitement that the new freshmen class has brought to Redeemer College this year.

Thirteen first-year students ran for student government this fall, vying for only three available seats. It was the largest race in the college's 18-year history.

Emily Houweling, of Terrasse-Vaudreuil, Que., Brandon Steinly, of Beamsville, Ont., and Walkerton, Ontario's Cameron Stretch were elected by the student body--70 per cent of which voted.

According to Graham Cubitt, president of student senate, the high voter turn-out is based on a number of factors.

"The school is small enough that people know who the candidates are," he said. "Also, I think the students here aren't apathetic about the senate. They appreciate what we do and so they take in interest in who is elected."

--DR

The
Council for
Christian
Colleges &
Universities
has named October



**CHRISTIAN
HIGHER
EDUCATION
MONTH**

Join us in celebrating
the vital role that
Christian higher
education plays in the
process of
transforming culture.

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Double your gift

Did you know that there are more than 500 companies who match their employees' gifts to colleges and universities? Your employer may be one of them!

This year, when you make a donation to Redeemer College or the Redeemer Foundation, contact your employer's Human Resources/Personnel department to obtain a matching form. Just complete the form and send it along with your donation to Redeemer College and we will do the rest.

For a list of matching gift companies contact Lisa Gonnering, Stewardship Dept., at (905) 648-2131 ext. #4475 or e-mail at lgonner@redeemer.on.ca.

Help us spread the word about our matching gift program and together with your employer you can double the impact of your donation to Redeemer College.

Program survey results in

Social work, media studies top list of requested programs

Along with the expected growth of the student body, it is also necessary to plan for the development of academic programs at Redeemer.

In the spring of 1999, the college surveyed the wider Redeemer community to get feedback on the expansion of new and existing academic programs at Redeemer College.

The researcher sent questionnaires in three mailings to a large random sample which consisted of 490 Redeemer College students, 476 alumni, 488 Christian high school students, 497 public high school students, and 908 Redeemer College supporters.

By June 15, 30 per cent of the random sample had responded and 840 surveys were analyzed. Several respondents took the opportunity to thank the college for asking their opinions on these issues.

The college had suggested a number of areas in the survey, and the respondents ranked *social work*, *environmental science*, *media studies* and *small business management* the highest on that list. When asked to list programs on their own, respondents ranked an *expansion of the education program*, a *media studies program*, a *nursing program* and an *expansion of the social work program* as ones that the college should pursue.

There were a number of other findings in the survey as well. Respondents felt that it was very important to have a Christian perspective on all courses listed.

Correspondence courses and summer courses were the most popular choices of ways in which Redeemer should expand its course offerings. And alumni gave many valuable suggestions for changes in Redeemer Col-

lege's programs, library services, computer services and public relations department.

Finally, the promise of faithful prayer support for the college by many of the elderly respondents was most heartening. They encouraged the college to keep the Christian perspective strong, to remain faithful, and to maintain a strong reformed identity.

Redeemer College thanks all those who participated in the survey. The college will use this information as it decides how best to expand the academic program. The college is also grateful for all the advice and encouraging words that were received through this survey.

In stepping forward, it is very rewarding to experience the incredible support of so many who share the vision of Christ-centred university education that is found at Redeemer College.

New Horizons 99 takes students on a safari adventure

Redeemer College's admissions counsellors went elephant riding this fall.

As part of a promotional campaign for New Horizons 99, Dory Strikwerda, Sid Ypma, Thanh Campbell and Linda Van Spengen (along with publications officer Dave Raakman) ventured out to African Lion Safari in Cambridge, Ontario to ride an elephant.

A colour version of the photo at right was printed on a postcard and sent to thousands of prospective university students as a reminder to come to Redeemer for New Horizons.

New Horizons is a recruitment event held every year on the last Friday and Saturday of November and has been effective in giving high school students a taste of what life at Redeemer is like.

This year's event (Nov. 26 and 27) features an adventure theme and students are requested to bring safari attire for the Friday evening activities.



Special thanks to Andrew Schaafsma Advertising for providing the banner.

PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

GIDDY-UP? Redeemer admission counsellors enjoy an elephant ride from Jenny.

New space and equipment for health and fitness studio

By David Raakman

Amcaster's best-kept secret just got better.

So described by its users, Redeemer College's newly expanded health and fitness studio has become a hot spot on campus (no

pun intended).

"We have more equipment that's user-friendly and our new open space is more inviting," said Frances Manias-Jackson, Redeemer College athletic coordinator.

Before the recent expansion, the athletic centre had a small weight room with aging

equipment that went mostly unsupervised. In the past few months, the weight-lifting area was moved to a larger space. "With minimal finances, we expanded to what is now a beautiful room and we needed to fill it with new and better equipment," Manias-Jackson said.

The college leased state-of-the-art training tools for its new fitness studio, including a treadmill, elliptical trainer, stepper, upright bike and recumbent bike plus much more. Its collection of free weights has also expanded.

According to Manias-Jackson, use of the facility has definitely risen. "We've increased our hours to accommodate the popularity of the studio," she said. "It's now fully supervised with knowledgeable staff."

Outside membership has also increased as new members are joining weekly. Students, staff, faculty and alumni and their immediate family members are automatically members of the fitness studio, needing to just show their ID or alumni card upon signing in. Only those 16 years of age or older are allowed in the studio. More information on the fitness studio can be obtained by calling (905) 648-2139 x4267.



PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

HOT SPOT: The athletic department expanded its weight room into a full health and fitness studio to accommodate the school's growing number of students.

THEATRE

CULTURAL EVENTS

AT REDEEMER COLLEGE

MUSIC

THE CAUCASIAN
CHALK CIRCLE

BY BERTOLT BRECHT

produced by special arrangement with Samuel French
directed by Prof. Raymond Coulter

November 25-27, 1999, 8 pm
Redeemer College Auditorium

Preview: November 23, 8 pm Matinee: November 24, 12 pm
Tickets: \$12 (\$10 students & seniors; \$6 preview) tax included
THIS PERFORMANCE IS PRESENTED FOR AUDIENCES 14 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER

Christmas Concert

Featuring the
Redeemer College Concert Choir
conducted by Dr. Christiaan Teeuwssen
in the style of the early 1600's.
Friday, December 10, 1999, 8 p.m.
Redeemer College Auditorium
Tickets: \$14 (\$12 stud./sr) tax incl.

Reservations: (Mastercard or Visa) call (905) 648-2139 x4211

Learning to teach

By David Raakman

Having been educated mostly at home isn't stopping Graham Cubitt from pursuing teaching in the classroom.

The 22-year old Cubitt, from New Lowell, Ontario, just south of Georgian Bay, is a third-year student at Redeemer College, majoring in history and education. He'd like to be a teacher—an interesting career choice, given that he was home-schooled from Grade 5 straight through high school.

"I'm committed to the idea of Christian schooling. I don't think it matters if that's done at home or in the classroom," Cubitt said. "Some people just aren't able to home school their children so there's definitely a need for traditional schools."

Cubitt, who attends Covenant Grace Church in Ravenna, near his hometown, reflects fondly on his elementary and secondary education. "I went to a Christian school until Grade 4 and was home-schooled after that," he said. "It's a different experience with a different structure. We had a farm and I learned a lot about working in the barn and the fields."

Cubitt also joined a local concert band and a travelling choir which toured all around Ontario every other weekend. "I learned a lot of different things and interacted with many people," he said.

After writing his American College Test, Cubitt applied and was accepted into Redeemer's undergraduate program in 1997. He found the transition back to the classroom easy to make. "I had a good dorm that I lived in first year and my professors were very helpful," he recalled. "I wasn't sure how much effort I would need to put forth in my studies and so at the beginning I

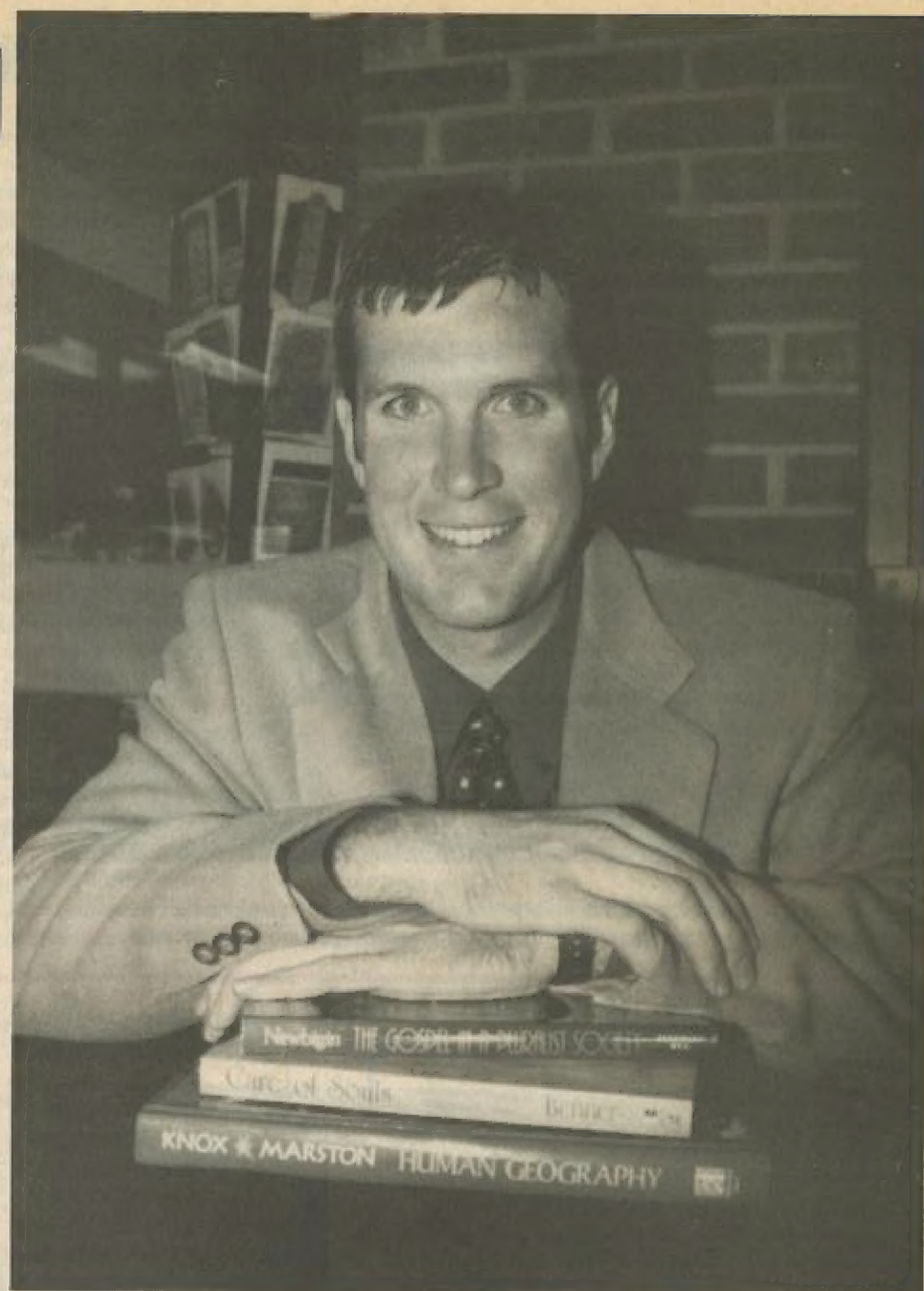


PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

In addition to his full course load, Graham Cubitt is president of Student Senate.

went full-tilt, but after a little while I started to get involved with different groups on campus."

In his first year, Cubitt participated in intramurals, morning prayer group, concert choir and helped out where needed with campus visiting days for recruiting new students. Now in his third year, he is still a member of the choir as well as president of Student Senate, in addition to taking his full academic course load.

"I felt I could offer a lot in terms of dedicated leadership as president," Cubitt said. "I

believe I'm fairly well respected by most students and have a good relationship with faculty and administration. Already I've been able to work with administration in representing students and student issues and they've respected what I've had to say."

The experience Cubitt gains as Student Senate president should be valuable to him as he strives toward his goal of eventually becoming a school administrator. "But I think I'll start out as a teacher and go from there," he said.



Growth *takes flight* **at** **Redeemer**

By Clarence Keesman '98

It's a marvel of God's creation. Millions of bodies fill the sky moving together towards a common destination. Scientists are not sure why an estimated 10 million monarch butterflies migrate each fall to the warm climate of Mexico but everyone can agree that millions of bodies in mass migration is truly an awesome sight.

This image of the migration of the monarch butterfly can be likened to an image recently experienced at Redeemer College. The image is not of millions of butterflies but rather of hundreds of people and the setting is not a fall sky but the halls of Redeemer College after its Opening Convocation—the official ceremony to launch another academic year. This mass of bodies is due largely to the 207 first-year students who have made Redeemer College their university of choice.

Redeemer College is experiencing a record year. The largest first-year class in the college's history has contributed to a record 576 students enrolled at Redeemer. This growth in total enrolment represents a one-year increase of 23 per cent in a Canadian university marketplace which is currently experiencing an undergraduate student enrolment growth rate of only one to three per cent (source: AUCC).

Several factors can be attributed to this rapid growth, the primary one being the

Ontario government's 1998 decision to amend Redeemer College's original charter. "We have seen a tremendous increase in the number of applications to the college this year," said Marian Ryks-Szelekovszky, senior director of admissions and student services.

Applications for the 1999/2000 academic year rose more than 80 per cent over the total number of applications received in the previous year, a rate of increase never experienced before in the history of Redeemer College.

"The BCS (bachelor of Christian studies) degree that Redeemer previously offered provided an excuse for students to forego the submission of an application to Redeemer," Ryks-Szelekovszky said. "Now that the college has the ability to grant bachelor of arts and bachelor of sciences degrees, that excuse has been removed."

Marie Stevens, a first-year student from Palmerston, Ontario, agrees. "I definitely wanted to attend a university. If Redeemer College did not offer BA and B.Sc. degrees, I would not have come," she said.

The charter amendment has not only helped in attracting many more new students to Redeemer College, it has also played a major role in keeping students at the college and, subsequently, adding to the student enrolment numbers.

"Previously, some students have opted to leave Redeemer College after their first year of study in pursuit of a BA or B.Sc. degree at a publicly-funded university," said Ryks-Szelekovszky. "We already do a good job of retaining students. Residential and student life is tremendous here at Redeemer. The degree change has given students that extra incentive to continue their studies at the college. What we are discovering now is that students who come to Redeemer with the intention of staying only one year like it so much that they end up staying the full four years."

In fact, retention rates in the past five years have hovered between 75 and 79 per cent. Since the charter amendment, the percentage of students choosing to continue their education at Redeemer College has increased to just over 88 per cent.

Several other factors have contributed to the swell of new students at Redeemer College. One factor has been a recently initiated U.S. recruitment drive. Twenty-five hundred brochures and information packages sent to prospective students in the U.S. generated a tremendous number of responses and inquiries. In addition to this, the Institutional Participation and Oversight Service/Office of Student Financial Assistance Programs of the United States Department of Education has granted provisional certification to Redeemer College. This means that U.S. students may apply to the Department of Education for assistance in order to fund their education in Canada at Redeemer College. As a result, the college has experienced a one-year increase in U.S. applications of more than 400 per cent.

While Redeemer's unprecedented growth has been a gift for which the community is very thankful, many speculate about whether Redeemer will be able to maintain this level of growth in future years.

"While we probably will not see the



This art rendering depicts approximately what the new three-storey residence will look like. College officials are hoping to have the building constructed by September 2000.

college continue to add 100 more first-year students to the previous year's class, we can expect the growth of the college to be primarily retention driven," states Ryks-Szelekovszky. "We can anticipate first-year class sizes to reach between 200 and 220 students over the next few years."

In addition to expecting first-year class sizes over the next several years to consist of more than 200 students, the college must also keep in mind that in September 2003 all universities in Ontario will be experiencing what is being referred to as the *double cohort*.

"In the past, the Ontario educational system has offered 13 years of primary and secondary level education. Five of these years were at the secondary school level," Ryks-Szelekovszky said. "Now, in order to

keep in stride with all of the other provinces in Canada, the Government of Ontario has eliminated the 13th grade or OAC level of education."

Students who began their high school education in September 1998 were the last to go through the five-year secondary school program. Beginning with this September, students will be completing a four-year high school program.

"In effect, what this means is that both years of students will graduate in the year 2003," Ryks-Szelekovszky said. "Technically, Redeemer College will not experience a full double cohort in 2003. The double cohort will be spread over several years. Some parents whose children have started high school in September of 1998, the last year of the five-year program, will 'fast

track' their kids through the secondary level because they fear the competition for admission into Ontario's universities that will result due to a limited number of spaces available."

The current and anticipated growth will impact all areas of the college from student life to athletics to academics. "We have tried to be proactive rather than reactive," said Fred Schat, dean of students. "We have increased our RA [residence assistant] and HA [housing assistant] training from two days to four days to more adequately prepare RAs and HAs for a growing on-campus population. We are also discussing with Student Senate the need for programs and services designed to involve a growing number of commuting and off-campus students in campus life."

Current growth has also allowed for a rich student social life at the college. "The increase in student numbers permitted more initiatives in starting new student clubs and organizations," said Eileen Fallon, assistant dean of students. New student clubs at Redeemer have increased from 26 clubs in 1998 to more than 35 clubs this academic year. New clubs include Tae Kwon Do, rock climbing and a brass band.

Al Brown, director of athletics, says the growth is wonderful for athletics at Redeemer. In addition to having a larger fan base to support varsity teams, the increase in enrolment has increased the talent pool from which sports team can draw. The result has been stronger, more competitive Redeemer College Royals sport teams.

"Take women's basketball as an exam-

ple," said Frances Manias-Jackson, athletic co-ordinator. "Last year the team carried only eight players. If there was an injury or two, we would be down to the bare minimum of six players. This year we are carrying a full roster of 12 players and the result has been a very competitive basketball team."

The increase has also allowed athletics to expand into new territory. For the past two years, the athletic program has carried 15 men competed for the five available spots.

While this dramatic increase in current and anticipated enrolment at the college will generate additional tuition and student fee revenue, the additional income only covers a portion of the cost to serve an increased student body.

"With the influx in the student body there will be an increase in demand on faculty, staff and the services that Redeemer offers to students," said Greg Hatton, a member of Redeemer College's development team.

The college must provide an increased number of scholarships and forms of student assistance to a growing student body. New academic programs must be initiated to respond to the demand. New resources, both human and capital, must be put into place in order to maintain the high quality of service and education for which Redeemer College is known.

"There has been a noticeable increase in the demand for student counseling and special needs services," said Schat. "The increase in the student population has also put a real strain on the athletic facilities. Last year with 475 students we were hard-pressed to accommodate all intramural and varsity teams. This year we are trying to cram 100 more students into an already full athletic schedule," said Brown.

Dr. Doug Needham, associate profes-



The halls of Redeemer College are getting busier as enrolment increases.

sor of psychology at Redeemer, said that, while the increase and anticipated increases will allow the college to carry its mission to a greater number of students, the growth is increasing the workload of many faculty. Just a few years ago the largest class size at the college consisted of no more than 65 to 70 students. Today, however, some first-year introductory classes are comprised of 100 or more students. "The increase in the size of classes will necessitate changes to the way classes are taught by our faculty," said Needham.

To illustrate his point, Needham suggests that, while it is feasible to require a class of 20 to 30 students to individually compose three essay papers per course, it becomes almost impossible to do the same with a class consisting of 90 students.

Perhaps the most urgent need facing the college is to build new student residences for September 2000. "Our residences were already full last year. This year we are running an even tighter ship," said Ryks-Szelekovszky, adding that almost all third- and fourth-year students who desired to live on-campus were asked to find accommodations off-campus.

Justin Cooper, president of Redeemer College is excited about the plans to build a new residence. "We have been busy planning for campus development over the next number of years, and particularly, for the

addition of a new residence to be built on campus next spring," he said. "With student input on various committees, we have developed a provisional design for a three-story building with three-bedroom apartments." This design is shown on the cover and pages 10 and 11 of this issue of *Images*.

The new residence will accommodate up to 78 students. Each apartment within the new building will be a self-contained unit equipped with bedrooms, a kitchen, bathrooms and a living area. The campus master plan suggests that the first series of new residence buildings be placed just north-east of the student recreation centre. However, the exact placement of the residence buildings is still under discussion. The cost of constructing the new residences will be \$2,500,000, an amount that the college's current operating budget and debt repayment structure cannot carry. Thus, Redeemer is seeking to fund this important and timely project with gifts from its supporting community through the *Building on the Promise* campaign.

Construction of a new residence is an important priority to the college. "In order to continue to have a residential campus, we need to invest in new residences," said Ryks-Szelekovszky. "It is important for students to be able to live on campus in order to foster personal and spiritual development. The building of Christian leaders at Redeemer

College does not restrict itself to what we do academically but also involves what happens outside of the academic building."

James Nelson, a first-year youth ministry student from Brantford, agrees. "It is disappointing that students who desired to live on campus were unable to do so. It is important for us to be part of a local community of Christian students. When you live off-campus, you are just in and out of the college for classes and it's harder to find the opportunity to sit down and talk with other like-minded students," Nelson said.

The reality of rapid growth and talk of building a new student residence has generated an enormous amount of excitement and energy both within the halls of the college and throughout the Redeemer College community. "You tell people that we need to build a new residence and they get excited," said Bill van Staalduinen, vice-president (advancement) at Redeemer College. "Suddenly they think, 'Wow! Our college is really growing!'"

Students echo this sentiment. "The growth of Redeemer is a tremendous opportunity," said Stevens. "The more students that come to Redeemer College, the more of a benefit it can be to our culture."

Nelson describes the growth as awesome. "The more students that come to the college, the more fellowship we will have," he said. "We will also have a greater ability to interact with and work with students striving to achieve the same goal in Christ."

Like the monarch butterfly, Redeemer College is part of God's Kingdom and it plays an important role. In a society where the name of the Lord is not highly revered, Redeemer College produces Christian graduates who battle the worldly philosophies that are so prevalent. Redeemer College strives to be a faithful part of God's Kingdom and He has blessed His college. For the entire Redeemer College community, it will be exciting to participate in the coming years of growth and just as the sight of millions of butterflies in mass migration is truly awesome, it will be even more incredible to be witness to God's awesome blessings for Redeemer College in the future.



Clarence Keesman graduated from Redeemer with a BA in business in 1998. He is an associate with Greg Hatton Consultants and is part of the Redeemer's Building On The Promise fund raising campaign.

Not just for art's sake.....

By Tim Wolfert '87

Liberal arts graduates are sometimes accused of studying subjects that, while interesting, have limited relevance to "the real world."

However, for Betty Brouwer (Broersema '88), not only has course selection been directly related to her interests, university studies have also greatly impacted her life as artist, counsellor, and mother. And in turn, she has used her education to make an impact on other's lives.

Betty Brouwer graduated from Redeemer College with a major in psychology, and minors in art and social work. But that was merely the start of her studies. She has taken a number of courses in watercolour painting at the Dundas Valley School of the Arts.

"I really enjoy the creative aspect of painting," Brouwer says, "and that gave me the opportunity to spend large blocks of time outdoors developing my art."

Looking for ways to combine her two fields of study, Brouwer began a two-year program at the Toronto Art Therapy Institute, examining how art can be used by children in helping them resolve emotional problems.

"Children in particular find art a friendly medium to express and explore their feelings. It allows them to talk about experiences in the third person, and it gives the counsellor an avenue to talk to the client in a less threatening way".

Brouwer began working for Salem Christian Counselling Services in 1994, working mostly with children and adolescents and their families. She is a Registered Art Therapist with the Canadian Art Therapist Association, and is certified by Play Therapy International as a Play Therapist. She incorporates both art and play therapy in her work at Salem, helping clients identify and work through emotional difficulties.

Most recently, Brouwer has earned a master of science in family studies at the University of Guelph, with a focus on child and adolescent development. Brouwer's thesis is entitled *"Stop Fighting--There's Enough for both of you!" An Observational Study of Parent's Socialization of Moral Ori-*

entation of Sibling Conflict. Her research centred on questions relating to the methods that parents use to deal with sibling conflict. Brouwer's research found that there are gender differences in how each parent resolves conflict. Males are more likely to use "justice statements" such as "He had it first" or "You'll have to wait your turn" while females more frequently used "compassion or care statements" like "Let's play together" or "There's enough for both of you."

The Brouwer family could have been the setting for some of this research—like some of the families in the study, Betty and her husband Rob ('88) also have two young children.

"My research has made both of us more aware of how we deal with our own children's conflicts," she says.

The clients that Brouwer works with at Salem also benefit from her research. "There are gender differences that come to play in

parenting styles. One may not necessarily be better than the other, but parents need to understand that the differences are there. How we react to situations is dependent partly on who we are. Understanding that can help in understanding how we react to conflict in our kids".

For the time being, Brouwer will continue her work at Salem, but will take some time off from formal study. Although further research in the area is not out of the question, academia is time-consuming for a part-time employee and a full-time mother. In the meantime, she hopes to be able to share her research with parents through workshops, conferences or seminars.

There is no questioning the relevance of Brouwer's work. She also embodies another trait of liberal arts graduates, being a life-long learner. But most importantly, she has also taken to heart a particularly Redeemer slogan—*learning is for serving.*



Betty Brouwer poses in front of one of her pieces of art.

PHOTO BY TIM WOLFERT '87

Alumni Board welcomes new members-at-large

At the Alumni Association Annual Meeting, held Sept. 18 during Homecoming '99, alumni thanked a number of retiring Alumni Board members.

Gerald Bierling has served his three-year term, and Gary Miedema has served his second consecutive three-year term. David Van Belle has also resigned to pursue further education in Alberta.

They have all served as members-at-large on the board. The Alumni Association thanks all three for their faithful, dedicated service, and prays that they will continue to find new and exciting ways to serve the Lord.

Elections were held at Homecoming to fill the spots

left on the board by those retirements. The board thanks all those who were willing to let their names stand for election.

The following alumni were elected to serve as members-at-large for a three-year term: **Jack Klooster '97, Rick Schenk '93, and Stacia Vong '95.**

The new Alumni Board met for the first time on Oct. 15, and will meet throughout the year to plan activities that benefit both alumni and the college community.

If you would like the board to address a particular issue, please talk to one of the board members directly, or send your comments to the board in care of the Alumni Office at Redeemer College.

--TW

The 1999-00 Redeemer College Alumni Board of Directors:

Mark Mantel '89 - Member-at-Large
Rick Schenk '93 - Member-at-Large
Ai Bakker '90 - Alumni Representative to the Senate
Vacant - Alumni Representative to the Board of Governors
Jeremy Veldman '00 - Student Senate Representative
Mike Bax '95 - Member-at-Large
Darryl Beck '98 - Member-at-Large
Jack Klooster '97 - Member-at-Large
Arlene Heidbuurt '88 - Member-at-Large
Doreen VanderHeide '92 - Member-at-Large
Stacia Vong '95 - Member-at-Large
Tim Wolfert '87 - Alumni and Community Relations Coordinator*

* non-voting

Alumni appeal exceeds goal

With thanks to God, the Alumni Board is pleased to announce that for the third consecutive year, the Alumni Annual Appeal (AAA) has exceeded its target.

More than \$3,400 has been donated by alumni to purchase new choir risers for the music department.

The AAA, launched for the first time in 1997, is a fund raising project designed by alumni and directed solely at alumni. In 1997, the appeal raised money to enable the library to purchase two new computers dedicated to research by students and faculty, and last

year alumni funded improvements to the college's centre foyer.

The surplus of money raised this year above the cost of the risers will be used by the music department to buy new music and robes for the Concert Choir.

The Alumni Board is very encouraged by these results, and is looking forward to preparing next year's appeal. The board gives thanks to the Lord for the way that He has blessed alumni with the resources to continue to support Redeemer College.

--TW



First annual Ottawa area alumni BBQ

On Sept. 10, more than 30 alumni and family met on the shore of balmy Britannia Beach for an evening social barbecue. Dennis Van Staalduinen '94 hosted what will hopefully become an annual alumni event for the Ottawa area alumni.

Approximately 40 of the 1,300 Redeemer College alumni live in the Ottawa area. New relationships were

built, and existing ones renewed, as alumni from '89 to '99 gathered around the grill. News was shared of the exciting changes at the college, and the *Building on the Promise* campaign was introduced. A big thanks to Tim

and Patti '94 Schuurman, and Bertina '93 and Eric '93 Hogeterp for organizing the food and flipping all the burgers. See you next year!



*Building on
the Promise*

Homecoming 99 draws small, casual gathering

A small but enthusiastic group of alumni returned to Redeemer's campus on September 18 to mark the 10th anniversary of their graduation. The Class of 1989 was the smallest graduating class in Redeemer's history, and many of that class have moved out of province, and were not able to attend.

This year's participants opted for a relaxed evening, enjoying a barbecue dinner at the campus with former classmates. Dr. Cooper was also there, taking the opportunity to share with the graduates some

of the great news of this past year, and how the college has grown over the years since they left.

Homecoming is an annual event marking the 10th anniversary of a graduating class. The Class of 1990 will be honoured at next year's event, to be held on September 16, 2000. If you are a member of that class and would like to be involved in the planning of the event, please contact the Alumni and Community Relations Office.



PHOTO BY DAVID SHAMAM

Redeemer staff member Ken Vis and professors Hugh Cook and John Byl posted the best score of the annual alumni golf tournament.

Faculty, staff win golf scramble

Thirty alumni, faculty and staff "scrambled" their way to a good time during the 1999 Alumni Association Golf Tournament at Knollwood Golf Course on September 18. This year's event featured a scramble format, allowing for a number of sub-par rounds.

When the dust settled, the team of Prof. Hugh Cook, Prof. John Byl, and Ken Vis (director of financial services at Re-

deemer) posted the best score of 7-under par. Prof. Cook also took the "Closest to the Pin" award, and Henk DeJonge saved some face for the alumni by taking "Longest Drive" honours.

Many of the golfers enjoyed the new format, so next year's tournament, on Saturday, September 16, will again be a scramble. Start planning your foursome for a good time again next year!

2nd alumni volleyball tourney

The Alumni Association is hosting the second annual co-ed volleyball tournament on Sat., Jan. 15, 2000. Alumni are invited to put together a team (three women on court at all times, no more than three former varsity players per team) and submit their entry by Jan. 14 to the Alumni Office. There is an entry fee of \$50/team to help cover the cost of referees and prizes.

The tournament format will depend on the number of teams entered, but we hope to have an Alumni All-Star team take on the current varsity team at the end of the day.

To register your team, please complete and return the form below. If you would like some more information please contact the Alumni Office.

REGISTRATION FORM

redeemer alumni co-ed volleyball tournament

Saturday, Jan. 15, 2000

at Redeemer College

Teams and players must be registered by Jan. 14.

Submit the form below and cheque to:
Alumni Office c/o Redeemer College, 777
Garner Rd. E., Ancaster, ON L9K 1J4

Registering as: ☐ Team ☐ Individual
•individuals register now and pay when team is formed (add your name below).
•for team registrations please complete the following:

Team Name: _____

Captain: _____

Players (and graduating year):

Teams: enclose cheque for \$50 payable to Redeemer College. Teams are not considered registered until fee has been received.

Not your average pair of science guys

By David Raakman

On November 5, two members of the Natural Sciences and Mathematics Division of Redeemer College will share the auditorium stage to give their inaugural addresses celebrating their promotion to full professor.

Dr. Henry Brouwer, professor of chemistry, and Dr. Gary Chiang, professor of biology, both teach courses in the science program at Redeemer, but their specific areas of study are very different.

Brouwer teaches analytical and organic chemistry and environmental studies and is doing research in the area of science education while Chiang's course work is in cell biology, biochemistry, microbiology and more and his research involves studying the physiology of egg production in blood-feeding insects.

"I'm a very overt Christian," Chiang says. "I will not hesitate to put my two cents in about the value of knowing Jesus Christ in any situation and so I really appreciate the opportunity to include faith in my teaching here at Redeemer."

In addition to enjoying the interaction with the students, Brouwer agrees that teaching at Redeemer is a unique and rewarding experience. "I enjoy the freedom I have to teach from a Christian perspective."

Both Chiang and

Brouwer have recently been promoted to full professor and, as part of their inauguration ceremony Nov. 5 at Redeemer College, will speak on topics related to their field of expertise. Chiang will address the Christian perspective of evolution while Brouwer's topic will be "Global Warning: A Lukewarm Response."

Before coming to Redeemer in 1985, Brouwer taught chemistry at high school for 15 years and noticed some positive differences in teaching at a university. "The students on the whole are hard-working and very interested in learning," he said.

Brouwer earned his B.Sc. and PhD at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario. He

has been involved with Redeemer long before he became a faculty member. Starting in 1976, he served on the board which looked into the feasibility of Christian higher education in Ontario. The 56-year old grand-father of three has five children, three of them married. In addition, three of his children are pursuing further edu-

cation and research in the area of chemistry. He and his wife Jane live in Ancaster and attend Fellowship Christian Reformed Church.

Chiang, 47, received all his degrees at the University of Toronto, culminating with his PhD in 1983. He has the privilege of working with his wife Jennifer, a sessional lecturer in biology. Both began working at Redeemer in 1990. They have four children, the oldest of whom attends Redeemer. They live in Ancaster and attend St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church where Chiang is a Sunday School teacher, using his talents as a steel guitar player and songwriter to teach children about the Scriptures.

Together with the entire natural sciences division, Chiang and Brouwer are examining alternatives to meet the challenges of a dramatic enrolment increase within the program. "In order to offer the same level of personal attention and academic excellence, we'll have to increase resources or limit enrolment," Chiang said.

Two years ago, the program had 27 students enrolled in introductory biology with seven continuing on. This year, the class size is 65 with 22 majors in the program.

"It's exciting that we have growth occurring within the smallest department in the college," Brouwer said. "There seems to be good interest in the sciences."



PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

Dr. Henry Brouwer and Dr. Gary Chiang were promoted to full professor this past year. To mark this occasion, they will give their inaugural addresses Nov. 12 at Redeemer College. The public is welcome to attend.



PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKAN

In July, Redeemer College hosted a Hermeneutics Conference which brought scholars from all over the world to campus for a four-day conference entitled: "Christian Scholarship in the Light of Scripture." Picture above are (left to right): Dr. Patrick Heelan (USA), Dr. Willem Ouweneel (The Netherlands), Dr. George Lotter (South Africa) and Dr. Elma Cornelius (South Africa).

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

Dr. M. Elaine Botha attended and Dr. Al Wolters spoke at the Second Consultation on "The Crisis in Biblical Hermeneutics" in Cambridge, England. Botha was involved in negotiations with the Cheltenham and Gloucester School of Higher Education and the British and Foreign Bible Society about a continuation of this process at Redeemer College in Aug. 17-19, 2000.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

The results of five years of editing almost 1,500 articles saw the light of day when the second edition of Dr. David Benner's *Baker Encyclopedia of Psychology and Counseling* was released this past summer by Baker Book House.

Over the past year, John Krueger's article "Creation Speaks" was published in *Christian Courier*, *The Canadian Baptist* and *Creation Care*. It recently won an honourable mention award at the God Uses Ink conference.

FACULTY COLLOQUIA
On Thursday, Oct. 7, the Busi-

ness department hosted a colloquium with Dr. Benne Van Popta, director of policy and research for MKB-Nederland, on the topic "The Dutch Harmony Model."

Dr. Jacob Ellens, associate professor of history, spoke on the topic "Church Flates, the Consecrated State, and the Happiness of Heaven in England and Wales, 1832-1856" on Oct. 26.

Dr. Al Wolters, professor of religion and theology, will speak Nov. 18.

Dr. Kevin Vander Meulen, assistant professor of mathematics, will speak Feb. 1.

Dr. Deborah Bowen, associate professor of English, will speak Feb. 10.

Dr. Adrienne Dengerink Chaplin, senior fellow in aesthetics at the Institute for Christian Studies, will speak at Redeemer on Feb. 29.

Prof. Bep Mook, department of psychology at the University of Ottawa, will speak at Redeemer on Mar. 14.

Dr. Wayne Norman, professor of psychology, will speak Mar. 23.

Welcome to new staff and faculty

Redeemer College welcomes David Smelser to its staff as janitorial services assistant.



Smelser

Hired in August, David comes to Redeemer with a diploma from the Niagara Parks Commission School of Horticulture which he received in 1988. He and his wife Laurel live in Nanticoke near Jarvis with their three children.

Two Lindas were hired by Redeemer in August. Dr. Linda Williams is a sessional assistant professor of education, filling in this year for Dr. Jim Rooks who is on leave. She earned her PhD in educational administration from the University of Alberta in 1986. She and her husband Spencer live in Oakville. They are parents of four grown children.

Linda Van Spengen '95 is the college's newest admissions counsellor. She graduated from Redeemer with an honours psychology degree and lives in Hamilton.

Elisabeth Di Francesco was hired in September as departmental assistant to the vice-president (academic). She graduated from York University with a bachelor of arts in geography in 1993.



Williams



Van Spengen



Di Francesco

She and husband Joseph live in Hamilton.

A host of new part-time faculty members are welcomed to campus for this semester. Dr. Ron Archer (physical education), Mr. Gord Cockell (business), Dr. Diane Dent (French), Mr. Rob Harvey (business), Mr. Peter Noteboom (political science), Dr. Aniceta Skowron (mathematics), Ms. Patricia Slade (social work), Mr. David van der Woerd (business), Ms. Helen Vreugdenhil '87 (history), Ms. Benita Wolters '96 (music).

In Memoriam

The Redeemer College community expresses its deep sympathy to Leni Janssens and her extended family on the death of Henry Janssens on Sept. 28 after a lengthy battle with cancer. Henry worked at Redeemer in the maintenance department from 1990 to 1994. He was 63 years old.

In addition, Redeemer extends its best wishes to Leni Janssens who retired as as-

sistant director of ancillary services this summer. Leni worked at Redeemer for 12 years, assisting in facility rentals and conferences as well as performing many other responsibilities.

Taking on new roles

Shalo Chong has shifted some of his responsibilities as admissions counsellor to include working in the department of the registrar, a position formally held by Tammy Dibbitts '94 who resigned to pursue further education.

Doreen Gringhuis is the college's new assistant director of ancillary services, filling the position held by Leni Janssens.

New grandfather

Dr. Justin Cooper and his wife Jessie rejoice with the safe arrival of their first grandchild, Aidan Alyda, daughter of Nathan '94 and Carmen Cooper.



Janssens

for all the latest news and information, visit our website:

www.redeemer.on.ca

Personal Touch is a collection of interesting news items of Redeemer College alumni. To submit your news of interest and photo (if desired), clip out the form below and send to: Images, 777 Garner Rd. E., Ancaster, ON, L9K 1J4. (Photos will be returned.)

After teaching math and science at Woodland Christian High School in Breslau for five years, **Paul Wiersma x'87** will be the principal at Lambton Christian High School in Sarnia beginning this fall. **Beth Ann (Douma '94)** will be taking a sabbatical from the teaching profession to pursue other interests. Beth Ann was guidance counsellor at Heritage Christian School in Jordan and taught Bible and English there for the past three years. Address: 490 London Rd., Sarnia, ON, N7T 4X2. (519) 383-7082. p.wiersma@hotmail.com.

Ed '92 and Joanne (Bouwens, '91) Bosveld with children Joshua (5) and Kristen (3) now reside at 84 Sherwood Crt., Chatham, ON, N7M

6L2. (519) 358-7325. ebosveld@netrover.com.

Having graduated from Westminster Theological Seminary (Philadelphia) **Ben Westerveld '93** is now learning French at Laval University in order to prepare for pastoral ministry in the Reformed Church of Quebec. **Melanie '93**, who is also learning French, is taking a break from studying and teaching piano. She is caring for Nadine (4) and Asher (2) as they await the arrival of their third child, DV, this October.

Address: 5377 ave du Marechal-Joffre, Charny, PQ, G6X 3C9, (418) 832-2421. acd241@agora.ulaval.ca

With thankfulness to God, **Clarence Korvemaker '94** and his wife Elaine (Douma) are pleased to announce the birth of their first-born, a healthy baby boy--Kyle Louis, born June 10, 1999. Clarence is enjoying his job as a tool and die apprentice in St. Thomas and Elaine is enjoying being a new mom.

Address: 45615 Ron McNeil Line, St. Thomas, ON, N5P 3T3. (519) 631-5762. clarence@MNSi.Net.

Nicole Anderson (Henderson, x'94) and her husband Ryan were

blessed with a baby boy, Zackary Johnathan David, on June 12, 1999.

Address: 17 Church St. W., Smith's Falls ON, K7A 1P6.

Steve '95 and Dorothy '95 Bock praise God for the arrival of their first-born--Kayla Elizabeth, born March 31, 1999.

Sandy (VanderWal '96) Heyink and husband Ray have been blessed with the birth of their first child, a son, Curtis John, born Feb. 25, 1999.

Address: R.R.#2, Hensall, ON, N0M 1X0. (519) 263-2442.

Tim Veldman '97 is currently teaching English at a Christian High School in The Netherlands. He finds it a rewarding challenge.

Address: Juliana straat 5, 6732 AT Harskamp, The Netherlands. t.veldman@wxs.nl.

Krista Posthumus '99 received a teaching contract at Immanuel Christian School in Oshawa for a full-time position teaching Gr. 5/6 and some time in Gr. 1/2 as well as teaching theatre to Gr. 4.

Address: 61 Elizabeth Cres. S., Whitby, ON, L1N 3R8. (905) 665-5722. kposthumus@yahoo.com.

ALUMNI:

*Images
needs your
personal touch!*

We love to hear birth
announcements of future
Redeemer alums so keep
sending 'em in.

We also want to hear
about other notable
incidents in the lives of our
alumni.

Have you...
written a book?
been promoted?
received a prestigious award?

gotten married?
finished your MA or PhD?
been an extra in a movie?
visited the Prime Minister?
saved a life?
or just not written to us in a
while?

Please tell us what's new
and exciting. We'd love to
share your news with a
community that cares.

Clip out the form at left (or use it
as a guide) and mail to the
address on page 3 or e-mail us at
images@redeemer.on.ca
(We'd love pictures too!)

NEWS OF INTEREST - personal touch

Name _____ Grad Yr. _____

Name (spouse, maiden, etc.) _____ Grad. Yr. _____

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Do you want your address published? ☐ Yes ☐ No

News of Interest _____

Doekies, denominations and diversity

Redeemer grows in more than just numbers



Richard Wikkerink '87

YES, I'm "still at Redeemer." It's a bit of a pat answer to the dreaded "so what are you doing now?" question from family and fellow alumni.

Over the past 12 years (not including my student years) I've given this answer with enthusiasm and at times with a bit of embarrassment, but right now it's downright exciting to be "still at Redeemer."

The prospect of being part of the incredible growth the college is anticipating provides me (and my colleagues) with new enthusiasm and joy.

So, in 12 years what has changed? In some sense Redeemer is the same--just grown up some. The Redeemer College that I attended from 1983-87 still exists--minus the beach, rows of bikes inside the building, a pale yellow bus, a sanctioned smoking room and the 99.9 per cent Dutch Reformed population.

The beach has been replaced by a beach volleyball court, bikes have now been exchanged for cars (parked outside), the bus is now a mini-van, smoking is restricted to a small area outside and only 65 per cent of the class of 2003 came from a Reformed church background.

Dr. Harry VanDyke still applies his dry humour to rows of freshmen who often miss the hilarity hidden in his lectures--although the class now has about 80 students. Chapel attendance still dwindles a bit at mid-term time but a monthly "Church In the Box" service has now swelled to 800.

Janny serves up her marvelous pea soup every Friday (drop in for a bowl sometime!) while the communal meal menu has improved dramatically. The foodstore still carries Maggi and chocolate sprinkles, but now they have about 10 different kinds of cereal rather than two. However, it is kind of comforting to know that dorms have yet to solve the question of "who left the dishes in the sink" and that "doekie" is still universally understood after a week in residence.

Outside of some changes to the way we do things, the addition of faculty and staff and new programs, there are deeper changes. The community has matured on a spiritual level. Faith-life and experiences are shared freely by many students. A prayer calendar occupies a prominent spot on the wall and groups regularly meet to pray for the community. Church in the Box--a fledgling worship service started in the Black Box about five years ago--has outgrown its facilities and now meets in the auditorium to allow 800 people to worship God in an amazing two-hour service of prayer and praise. Volunteer groups flourish and short-term mission projects continue to be popular.

Redeemer is becoming a more interdenominational place--and improving its ability to communicate the Reformed perspective to a growing diversity of students. We're more comfortable with being an "inclusive" Reformed community which respects the differences of theology

while finding ways to celebrate the oneness we share in Christ. What we've lost in commonality we have gained in diversity of tradition, worship and language.

With the number of international students growing dramatically, we are seeing more ethnic diversity in our community. Today in residence, one might end up sampling kimchi just as quickly as boerenkool, or sharing a room with a Korean student who is learning English. It's a neat experience to find out that in spite of differences of language, colour and nationality, mothers will always worry, and that roommates can be difficult at times. But it is also rewarding to see that we all worship the same Lord and Saviour.

The college continues to grow into its mission and purpose as it provides a Christ-centred education to students from all corners of the earth. The Board of Governors, faculty and staff remain committed to providing a Reformed Christian education. While denominational ratios change and ethnic backgrounds become more diverse, Redeemer students will always leave with a richer understanding of the Reformed faith ... and what a "doekie" is.

Richard is Associate Registrar and Program Director for the English as a Second Language program. In addition to being a dad, he's also working on his MEd in Higher Education at the University of Toronto (OISE).

